REMARKS

This amendment is being made pursuant to the office action mailed November 28, 2004.

SPECIFICATION

The specification stands objected to for certain informalities. Applicant(s) have amended the specification according to the Examiner's suggestions. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

ELECTION/RESTRICTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 121

At this time the undersigned wishes to affirm the election of claims 1-27 for prosecution. Claims 28-29 are hereby cancelled without prejudice.

OBJECTION TO ABSTRACT

The abstract was objected to because of its length. In response thereto, the abstract has been amended and a substitute abstract submitted. It is believed that this removes the ground for rejection and reconsideration is requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(E)

Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Horovitz et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,389,409). For the following reasons, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Initially, it will be noted that claim 25 has been amended to more positively recite a method for managing technologies among a plurality of individuals operating within a

common collaboration group or within different collaboration groups. Claim 25 has further been amended to recite that the card catalog is populated over a networking connection based on collaboration input from a plurality of independent stewards, and further recites the step of enabling a plurality of different users within at least one of a common collaboration group and a plurality of different collaboration groups, to access the bookshelf based on search input provided by the user. Horovitz et al is not directed to a method for managing technologies between individuals located either within the same collaboration group, or within different collaboration groups, and wherein the method includes the step of allowing independent stewards to populate a card catalog, as well as allowing different users within common or different collaboration groups to access a bookshelf containing information provided by the stewards. Horovitz et al simply appears to be directed towards a method for obtaining a unified classification information graph that assists a user in finding particular information via a navigation system. The method of Horovitz et al involves providing multiple information resources that each include a hierarchy of categories. The method of Horovitz et al is not directed to a system which allows a plurality of independent stewards to populate a card catalog with specified information over a network in connection, and thereafter allowing other users within the same collaboration group, or within different collaboration groups, to access a bookshelf of links that is based on the entries in the card catalog populated by the independent stewards.

The present invention thus makes it possible for individuals within the same collaboration group, or within different collaboration groups, to each act as stewards to populate a card catalog over a networking connection, wherein the card catalog forms a

repository of information that can be accessed via a bookshelf of links by one or more users within a common collaboration group or within different collaboration groups. In fact, Horovitz et al does not appear to be directed whatsoever towards the system for allowing individuals within different collaboration groups to populate a card catalog, while allowing the same or other users within the same or different collaboration groups to access the bookshelf of links. Horovitz et al appears to be only directed towards a method of providing information from multiple information resources in a manner that appears to assist in obtaining and integrating multiple classification information resources using a single unified access interface (column 2, lines 47-51). For at least this reason, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-24 AND 26-27 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(A)

Claims 1-24 and 26-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Horovitz et al in view of Wical (U.S. Patent No. 6,487,545). This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Initially, it will be noted that independent claim 1 has been amended to more positively recite a web-based collaboration tool for enabling individual stewards to populate a card catalog, and that the individuals stewards being from either a single collaboration group or from more than one collaboration group; and further that the web portal accesses the bookshelf based on search input and based on technology-specific terminology data to enable individual users to access information stored in the card catalog, wherein the user's are from at least one of a common collaboration group or different collaboration groups. Again, these limitations are not suggested by Horovitz et al or Wical, either independently or in combination. As explained herein, Horovitz et al is simply not directed to a system

that enables individual stewards from either the same or different collaboration groups to populate a card catalog with information, based on a controlled lexicon including technology-specific terminology data, and further to enable individuals within the same collaboration group or within different collaboration groups to access a bookshelf associated with the card catalog. Horovitz et al, as explained herein, is directed to a method which enables end users with a centralized access and search service to information residing in multiple heterogeneous on-line catalogs. This is simply different and in no way commensurate with the scope of the present invention which allows one or more stewards to populate the card catalog, wherein the stewards are from the same or different collaboration groups, and wherein one or more individual users from the same or different collaboration groups are able to access the bookshelf associated with the card catalog via a web portal, and via search information that is based on the controlled lexicon used by the stewards in providing the information to the card catalog. Wical does not remedy this deficiency. Wical is generally directed towards a knowledge catalog having a plurality of independency and parallel static ontologies to accurately represent a broad coverage of concepts that define knowledge. While Wical may use a plurality of knowledge concepts that are arranged hierarchically such that the knowledge concepts are organized from a high level down to more specific concepts, this still is far different from the system and method of the present invention. Wical does not disclose or suggest enabling a plurality of stewards to populate a card catalog based on a controlled lexicon of technology-specific terminology data, regardless of whether the stewards are in the same or different collaboration groups, and then subsequently enable individuals to access the

information via a web portal, and also using the controlled lexicons, and regardless if the users are in the same or different collaboration groups.
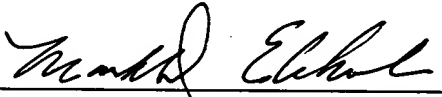
In view of the significant differences between Horovitz et al and Wical, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

<u>CONCLUSION</u>

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 2, 2005

By: _____
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